TECHROLOGY CENTER 3600

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE EXPEDITED PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.116 REQUESTED

Attn: BOX AF

Applicants:

Yoshinori NAKAYAMA

Application No.:

09/379,104

Filing Date:

August 23, 1999

Title:

SCHEDULE RETRIEVAL METHOD FOR CONTROLLING SCHEDULES AND SCHEDULE SERVER APPARATUS WITH

MULTISTAGEOUS IDLE-TIME RETRIEVAL MEANS

Art Unit:

3628

Examiner:

N. Nguyen

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

February 3, 2003

Sir:

The following remarks and arguments are submitted in the above-identified application responsive to the final Office Action (Paper No. 17) dated October 3, 2002.

REMARKS

Claims 10-20 are pending in this application. No claim has been amended because all claims 10-20, as pending, are believed to be patentably distinguishable over all the cited prior art references, including the originally cited Hirotaka JP 8106439 and the newly cited, Cree et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,093,901. As a result, entry of this Response is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116(b) because those amendments simply respond to the issues raised in the final rejection, no new issues